

Famous Aviators

A Web Quest

Kindergarten-3rd Grade



Filing The Flight Plan

Introduction

Man has always been fascinated with flight. Early man studied “Nature’s Flyers” and tried to imitate their flight. Many things were learned from those experiences. The investigations went on from there. Toys, bicycles, and balloons all contributed to investigations of flight. This has been recorded throughout history time and time again. Each discovery contributed to the development of the flight technologies that we enjoy today. This web quest is your chance to experience and celebrate the contributions of the early aviators.

Flight Check

The Task

Take a stroll through time with some famous aviators to uncover their contributions to flight through the ages. See how their investigations into flight helped them become airborne. Below you will find a list of aviators and biographical websites. Use the website to find each famous aviator’s contributions to flight. Record your findings on a classroom chart. Your classroom chart should be a "snapshot" of the aviator. Be sure to be specific. You will use this information later in the web quest.

Taxi For Take Off

The Process

Kindergarten and First Grade will work as a whole class or in small groups with the teacher on the web-quest.

Second and Third Grade will work in partners and all the information uncovered to the classroom charts. Be sure to only add **new** information uncovered to the chart.

Place a piece of chart paper on the wall in your classroom for each aviator being investigated. This paper should be accessible to the student. As you investigate the aviator, record your findings on the aviator’s chart. Be sure to include the following information on the chart:

Who: Name the aviator
What: The contribution
Where: Local, the city and the country
When: Date or time-period of contribution
Why: Influence of contribution



Take Off Resources



Use the web sites below to uncover the fascinating facts about the famous aviators of the past.

Leonardo da Vinci

Although he is known more for his art, he was also an inventor. Find out why Leonardo de Vinci can be linked to flight.

<http://www.imss.firenze.it/news/mostra/6/index.html>

http://windows.arc.nasa.gov/tour/link=/people/ren_epoch/davinci.html&edu=elem

Montgolfier Brothers

Up, up, and away. Find out how these famous brothers contributed to flight in their time period.

<http://premiair.uk.com/montgolfier.html>

<http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/blairship.htm>

Sir George Cayley

Without his contributions we might still be on the ground. Find out how his investigations influenced flight.

<http://www.allstar.fiu.edu/aero/cayley.htm>

http://www.dfrc.nasa.gov/History/history_flight/slide1.html

The Wright Brothers

Orville and Wilbur are famous names indeed. Uncover what they learned from toys and how they contributed to flight.

<http://www.fi.edu/flights>

<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/aero/wright/>

Charles Lindbergh

Lindbergh's "spirit" was a great contribution. Uncover the "spirit" of his contributions to flight.

www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/lindbergh/index.html

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/aero/aved/publications/skyslimit/lindbergh.html>

Amelia Earhart

Amelia Earhart set many aeronautical records. Discover the records she set and enjoy the adventures of Amelia.

http://ellensplace.net/eae_intr.html

<http://ninety-nines.org/bios.html>

Bessie Coleman

Bessie Coleman became a licensed pilot in a country other than the country she was born in.

<http://ninety-nines.org/bios.html>
www.bessiecoleman.com

Chuck Yeager

Sound off...Find out what sound has to do with Chuck Yeager's contribution to flight.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/sound/speed.html>
<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/pao/History/x1/yeagphoto.html>

Additional Flights

There are many other famous aviators that can be accessed by websites below.

Chasing the Sun

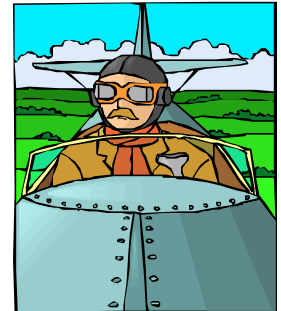
<http://www.pbs.org/kcet/chasingthesun/timeline/1900.html>
History of commercial aviation as seen through the eyes of its aviators

The Ninety-Nines

<http://ninety-nines.org/bios.html>

Famous Aviators Hall of Fame

<http://www.firstflightnc.com/links.cfm>



Coming In For A Landing The Product

To finish your flight with a successful landing you must complete one of the following tasks.

- Create a poster about one of your favorite aviators
- Create an Aviator's Hall of Fame for your school hallway
- Create a classroom book about your favorite aviators
- As a class create an Aviator's Newspaper or magazine highlighting the famous aviators you have learned about
- Create a class web page about the famous aviators you have studied

School-wide Project

- Aviator's Convention
 1. Pick a date for a school wide convention celebrating famous aviators
 2. Each student should pick an aviator to become for the convention
 3. The student should be able to share contributions and important facts about the aviator at the convention.
 4. The student should be able to share why this was their favorite aviator.
 5. Induct the aviators into the Aviator's Hall of Fame.

Thank you for joining us on our journey with the famous aviators of the past. Come back to visit again soon.

Teacher's Notes

A Web Quest is an inquiry-based activity that presents students with a challenging task in which they use Internet resources to complete the task. The information uncovered during the web quest is used to complete a project.

Kindergarten/First Grade

One of the largest drawbacks for Kindergarten and First Grade using Web activities is that the readability of the sites is often not appropriate for the developmental level of the learner. For that reason, it is suggested that this activity is done either as a whole group within the classroom or in small groups with a teacher, perhaps as a center within the classroom that students rotate through. Students should design and keep a journal of the information uncovered during their experiences.

Second/Third Grade

The learners in second and third grade should work in partners to research the famous aviators. Each student should keep a journal of his or her work. The journal will help them complete the final project.

This Web Quest could be an all school project. Give each grade level a section of the Centennial of Flight timeline to investigate and then turn it into a Centennial of Flight Celebration with an all school event to highlight what each grade level learned about their particular section of the timeline. Decorating the halls of the school with information uncovered, from an Aviator's Hall of Fame to a Timeline of the Centennial of Flight it will be a wonderful and exciting experience for children and adults alike.

Standards

History and Nature of Science Content Standard G

All students should develop an understanding of science as a human endeavor.